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Statement of Juan Candelaria
Chairman of the Black and Puerto Rican Caucus
State Representative for the 95th Assembly District
For the Government Administration and Elections Committee

March 17, 2014

In support of

H.B. 454 Increasing the Transparency of General Bids for State Contracts.

Chairman Musto, Chairman Jutila, and Honorable members of the Government Administration and Election Committee, as Chairman of the Black and Puerto Rican Caucus, I would like to express my strong support for H.B.454, An Act Increasing the Transparency of General Bids for State Contracts, which is currently in your committee for consideration.

H.B. 454 would provide minority contractors a better opportunity to compete with other contractors for state projects, and reduce and possibly eliminate illegal use of independent contractors. This legislation would assure that contractors are directly hired by the Construction Managers or General Contractors which would offer protection and more prompt payments for requisitions, benefiting the company and the client.

In addition, H.B. 454 would require contracting packages to become smaller and standard, therefore allowing small and minority contractors to bid on work their company specializes in.

Let's ensure that our contractors obtain the ability to bid for state contracts if they desire.

Thank you, chairmen and committee members for the opportunity to present my testimony.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Juan Candelaria".

Juan Candelaria
Chairman of the Black and Puerto Rican Caucus
State Representative
95th District